GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3379
ANSWERED ON:24.08.2006
SERVICES OF GOODS TRAIN DRIVERS IN MAIL/EXPRESS TRAINS
Athawale Shri Ramdas

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether mail and express trains are being driven by the goods train drivers for the last few years;

(b) If so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor;

(c) Whether it had led to increase in the occurrence of accidents and derailment;

(d) If so, the details thereof;

(e) Whether various railway employees unions have also brought this aspect to the notice of the Railways; and

(f) If so, the action taken by the Railways in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU)

(a): Mail and Express trains are not routinely run by goods train driver, the need for which may arise only in exceptional situations. Should such a contingency arise, then only a suitable goods driver is deployed.

(b): Does not arise.

(c): No, Sir.

(d): Does not arise.

(e) & (f): Issues like filling up of vacancies, monetary compensation has been brought to the notice of some of the Railways by employees unions which are suitably addressed as per the extant rules. However, the aspect of increase in train accidents due to goods drivers utilised on mail & express trains per se is not reported to have been raised.